

The International Umpires Sub-Committee met at 10:30 – 17:30 hours Hotel NH Malaga, Spain on Tuesday 14th November 2023.

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| 1. Closed Session (closed to observers) | 8. Event Appointment |
| 2. Opening of the Meeting | 9. Grouping |
| 3. Minutes of the previous meeting and Agenda | 10. IU Manuals |
| 4. Race Officials Roles, Qualifications and Competencies | 11. Calls and Rules |
| 6. Education and Development | 12. IU Tests |
| 7. Policies | 13. Race Officials Committee |
| | 14. Submissions |

Presenters:

C = Chair (Chris Lindsay IRL)

ROM = Race Officials Manager

DP = David Pyron CAN

RS = Richard Slater AUS

CA= Chris Atkins

Attendees:

Chris Lindsay- IRL (CL)

Richard Slater - AUS (RS)

Jusso Leivonen - FIN (JL)

Manuel Huensch - GER (MH)

Arnaud Mante - FRA (AM)

Kohei Imazu - JPN (KI)

David T Pyron - CAN (DP) – video conference

1. Closed Meeting (closed to observers)

- 1.1 Welcome by the Chair
- 1.2 Performance Investigations
- 1.3 Commendations
- 1.4 Seminar/ Clinic Instructors, Test Administrators and Performance Assessors
- 1.5 Race Official Appointments
- 1.6

2. Open Session - Opening of the Meeting

- 2.1 Welcome by the Chairman
- 2.2 Chair, Chris Lindsay welcomed all sub-committee members to the meeting, sharing thanks for the work they had put in during the last 12 months. CL shared thanks for the support received from the executive office.
- 2.3 Tomasz Chamera (VP) welcomed all to Malaga and thanked for contribution to IUSC. Tomasz gave an overview on the past year, reflecting on many successful events including the Olympic Test Event, Sailing World Championships, Continental Championships and the start of the Paris 2024 Olympic Qualifiers. TC mentioned the development of the SWCs including Para events, highlighting the importance of this to showcase the inclusivity of the sport. TC confirmed many learnings had been taken from the Test Event by all stakeholders and identified the strong progress made in preparations for next year. Confirmed Paris 2024 Race Official appointments had been made and shall shortly be released.
- 2.4 TC highlighted awareness of the need for better information for Race Officials exploring future development pathways and confirmed the Executive Board see database requirements as a top priority to assist in knowledge and workload of the office. TC identified

continuous development remains an outstanding priority and noted the importance of a collaborative approach within the Race Official community and wider stakeholders to offer learning opportunities, reinforcing the need to reach the aims and targets of the International Olympic Committee to reach gender equity and stronger geographic spread to protect the future of the sport.

- 2.5
- 2.6 Attendees and Apologies
- 2.7 Full sub-committee attendance with David T Pyron joining by video conference, noting Natalia Chubenko (RUS) remains suspended.
- 2.8
- 2.9 Obituaries
- 2.10 Shared obituaries to remember Race Officials Ron Yaffe ISR (IJ/IRO), Ewa Andersson SWE (IJ/IU) and Ralph Roberts NZL (IJ/IU) who have shared many contributions to race officiating and sadly passed in 2023.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Agenda

- 3.1 Minutes
- 3.2 The minutes of the previous International Umpires Sub-Committee meeting held on 24th October 2022 were approved with no further matters arising.
- 3.3

4. Race Official Roles, Qualifications and Competencies (RQC)

- 4.1 IUSC reviewed the first draft for the 2023 RQC document, including content of the IU section and 'general' section changes and noted the following recommendations.
- 4.2 For IU section, recommendation to move the seminar requirement outside of the 4 year period and update wording of 8.2 (b) to reinforce you cannot take the performance assessment and get an event reference from the same event.
- 4.3 Discussed list of principal events, confirmed to update Team Racing list from specific events to generic list, in line with Medal, Fleet and Match lists.
- 4.4 The sub-committee discussed proposal from IJSC for examination to be moved to a requirement for the year the applicant applies. IUSC do not support this and shall take opinion to ROC for this to be an amendment only within the judges section.
- 4.5 IUSC did not support the suggestion to reduce timeframe for a first-time re-sit to 6 months, highlighted the result of this would require many new IU tests to be created.
- 4.6 IUSC supported keeping Appendix A for a further year, noting the designated period for 2024 applications would be October 2020- October 2024, but noted a suggested update to remove the possibility to extend the subject to condition test past May 2025, as both IJ and IU test shall be possible online, therefore there should be no reason the original deadline cannot be met.

5. Education and Development

- 5.1 Seminars and Clinics
 - (a) To review the 2023 program

CL shared a report from the Match Racing Seminar, held in USA in April 2023, alongside confirming a Team Racing seminar being held in November in Istanbul TUR and a Fleet Racing Seminar confirmed for Lanzarote, ESP in December.

CL reinforced the popularity of seminars with available spaces for fleet racing seminar filling up within a week of advertisement. Identified a need to secure budget to offer more in 2024.

(b) To discuss the 2024 program

CL confirmed Match Racing seminar in Japan in 2024.

RS gave an update on the proposal to break down the current Match Racing seminar into a national clinic and an international seminar. Splitting the content into a modular online format national clinic, to be shared to MNAs to utilise within their own countries. Tacking feedback from previous discussions, RS highlighted the format aiming to attract interest/ educate younger officials who do not have the current time to attend a 5 day seminar, being able to complete the course in small online chunks. The online format would provide the opportunity to increase the accessibility of the course by reaching remote regions where an in-person programme would not be suitable if there is only 1 or 2 interested participants.

RS highlighted the project would provide opportunity to 'make available' time within the IU seminar to focus on those items that are 'coachable' and best maximise the purpose of in-person attendance, providing a cost-effective solution to develop education.

This format would offer a development structure to education, an online clinic programme accessible for all, would lead to becoming a pre-requisite for attending the seminar.

Action – to get the clinic material ready in modular form by Q4 2024.

World Sailing to review online platform for project.

5.2

5.3 Continuous Development

5.4 To discuss what each sub-committee is doing to maintain and further develop the skills of its race officials, including internet-based continuous training materials and mentorships

5.5 DP identified current MNA process to widen discussion among national officials opening conversation how international umpires can learn from each other. Highlighted the regional representation of assessors/ instructors to act as lead for their regions.

5.6 Action - DP to contact assessors to open conversation about running webinars.

5.7 Training and Development

5.8 CL highlighted the work to develop education to an online clinic structure and online platform for first time and renewal tests aim to increase the accessibility of learning materials and simplify the process for become an IU, reducing unnecessary costs for the volunteer community.

5.9 Following gender equal appointments made for umpires at Women's and Youth Match Racing events, IUSC identified the importance of feedback and co-operation with the EAWP to provide opportunity for more events.

5.10 CL confirmed IUSC interest in working on a female only clinic under the World Sailing Steering the Course initiative.

6. Policies

6.1 Umpiring medal races

6.2 IUSC reviewed the test of the IU Fleet & Medal racing manual regarding advantage despite taking a penalty. It was noted that this had been an area of inconsistency across different umpires and events. RS shared the view that there should be a point at which further penalty turns are not given as the advantage has become significant.

- 6.3 Action – CL and RS to revise wording of this manual section
- 6.4 Umpiring kite medal series
- 6.5 Markus Schwendtner reported on the experiences from drone umpiring at the Paris 2024 Test Event & Sailing World Championships. MS noted the learnings taken from the Paris 2024 Test Event and how they were implemented in the Sailing World Championships to improve the process. MS identified there are further learnings to be made as more experience is gained.
- 6.6 Considering the long term progression MS highlighted the need to develop technology and use of watches/ other device to 'identify the protest' outside of raising an arm, as this is a limitation to the current process. Noted it is too late for Paris 2024 but is critical to explore alternative options/ importance of testing any future potential processes as early as possible to give strong consideration ahead of LA 2028.
- 6.7 Consider additional policies as needed
- 6.8 The report shared from Markus identified to IUSC a need for a clear policy on time given to take a review, admitting the speed of action is limiting officials to make decision in real time without a review.

7. Event Appointment

- 7.1 To receive a report from the Event Appointment Working Party .
- 7.2 Megan Griggs (WS) gave an update on behalf of the EAWP, outlining the statistical representation of appointments made this calendar year. The report highlighted the 2023 priorities of gender equity, geographical representation and opportunity for development of race officials. This year, there were 290 appointments, with appointments based on World Championships and the Paris Test Event (in contrast with 130 appointments in most years). The EAWP are responsible for appointment to high level events, with no structure for bringing officials into other events and highlighted the need for stronger cohesion with Olympic classes to open opportunities for experience at other suitable events. The report identified the inclusion of travel grants for 2023 appointments to reduce the financial burden for offering event opportunities for further out regions, whilst also utilising the funds to create 'additional appointments, with focus on learning and development. The IJSC notes that officials who have not been appointed to such events need to have opportunities.

8. Grouping

- 8.1 To receive an update on the 2023 grouping procedure for IUSC
- 8.2 Chris Lindsay provided a report on the 2023 grouping process, highlighting the positive response by the community, with only 1 or 2 umpires requesting further information, no complaints were received, the grouping decisions made were clear and regulated to the criteria and process.
- 8.3 Following the positive response to the new grouping, IUSC are supportive of continuing the process as it is, reinforcing the aims to IU community to utilise the grouping as a development tool for personal growth.

9. IU Manuals

- 9.1 Match Racing Manual
- 9.2 DP provided a report on the IU Match Racing Manual confirming preparations are being made for a full update in 2025 in line with the new Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 9.3 Team Racing Manual
- 9.4 IUSC received a report from Chris Atkins on the team racing manual and schedule for updates.

9.5 Umpired Fleet Racing/ Medal Racing Manual

9.6 CL reported on the Umpired Fleet Racing Manual and noted that the review process will need to begin in 2024 for publication by the end of the quad.

9.7

10. Calls and Rules

10.1 Rapid Response Calls

10.2 IUSC received a report from RS on behalf of the Team and Match Rapid Response working parties.

10.3 Rules Development

10.4 IUSC received a report from RS on behalf of the Team and Match Rapid Response working parties.

11. IU Tests

11.1 JL reported on the status of the IU tests. It was noted that there were sufficient tests for team and fleet racing, but that a new test will soon be needed for match racing.

11.2 Action – JL to create a new match racing test.

11.3

11.4 Discuss the development of an online portal for IU tests

Arnaud Mante gave an update on the online test portal. RS had recently tested the portal, identified the requirement for IU test administrators to be trained in the new online platform. AM confirmed a trial version shall be created to provide opportunity for instructors to understand the software.

ACTION – To transition to online test administration for all tests by the end of 2024.

12. Race Officials Committee

12.1 No additional recommendation made by IUSC to the Race Officials Committee on and areas of its agenda not already considered by the Sub-Committee.

13. Submissions

13.1 Please refer to the 2023 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available online at <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/organisation/governance/conferences/2023-world-sailing-annual-conference/2023-world-sailing-annual-conference-submission-papers/>

(a) To consider submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is the reporting committee:

- (i) 108-23 - Appointment of Olympic Race Officials
- (ii) 110-23 - Regulation 25.8.13 – RRS J1.1(7) – RRS N 1.10
- (iii) 115-23 - Regulation 31.15
- (iv) 116-23 – Regulation 31.17 & 6.10.7.2(I)

(b) To consider submissions on the Racing Rules of Sailing for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee - Submissions 001-23 through to 097-23 and 201-23 to 206-23.

- (i) 022-23 – Part 5, Introduction, Definition Party, Definition Protest

- (ii) 023-23 – Rule 60.4(A)
- (iii) 025-22 – Rule A2
- (iv) 026-23 – Rule 61.2 and 63.5 – Start of Hearing
- (v) 030-23 – Rule 66.1
- (vi) 031-23 – Rule 66.2
- (vii) 042-22 – RSS Gender Neutral Terminology
- (viii) 083-23 – Rule N1.4(B)
- (ix) 088-23 – Regulation 25.8.13, RRS J1.1(7) and RRS N1.10
- (x) 089-23 – RSS Gender Neutral Language

13.2 To consider any additional submissions IUSC would like to share opinion on. Submissions 001-23 through to 216-23.

13.3

13.4